

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 24 contiguous bases of nucleotide sequence first disclosed in the NHP gene described in SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that:

- 10 (a) encodes the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2; and
- (b) hybridizes under stringent conditions to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or the complement thereof.

15 3. An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.